

Serial No.:09/465,298

In the Claims

Complete listing of claims:

Claims 1 - 23 (canceled)

Claims 24 - 31 (not entered)

Claim 32 (new) A nonwoven laminate comprising:

a first layer having a first side and a second side, said first layer comprising a nonwoven web of multicomponent meltblown fibers having a first polymeric component and a second polymeric component in distinct zones across the cross-section of the fibers which extend substantially continuously along the length of the fibers, said multicomponent meltblown fibers having an average fiber diameter less than about 7 micrometers;

a second layer proximate the first side of said first layer, said second layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers;

a third layer proximate the second side of said first layer, said third layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers; and

wherein the first polymeric component of said multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises a propylene polymer having a crystallinity above 70 J/g and further wherein the second polymeric component of said meltblown fiber web comprises an amorphous polyalphaolefin having a crystallinity below about 65 J/g and wherein said layers are bonded together to form a multilayer laminate.

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Claim 33 (new) A nonwoven laminate comprising:

a first layer having a first side and a second side, said first layer comprising a nonwoven web of multicomponent meltblown fibers having a first polymeric component and a second polymeric component in distinct zones across the cross-section of the fibers which extend substantially continuously along the length of the fibers, said multicomponent meltblown fibers having an average fiber diameter less than about 7 micrometers;

a second layer proximate the first side of said first layer, said second layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers;

a third layer proximate the second side of said first layer, said third layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers; and

wherein said second and third spunbond layers are extensible and further wherein the first polymeric component of said multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises an elastic polyolefin and wherein said second component of the multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises an elastic polymer and wherein said layers are bonded together to form a multilayer laminate.

Claim 34 (new) The nonwoven laminate of claim 33 wherein the second component of the multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises an elastic polyolefin.

Claim 35 (new) The nonwoven laminate of claim 33 wherein the second component of the multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises a blend of a polyolefin and a non-olefin thermoplastic elastomer.

Claim 36 (new) The nonwoven laminate of claim 33 wherein the second component of the multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises an elastic non-olefin thermoplastic elastomer.

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Claim 37 (new) The nonwoven laminate of claim 33 wherein the second component of the multicomponent meltblown fiber web comprises a block copolymer having a styrenic moiety end block and an elastomeric mid-block.

Claim 38 (new) A nonwoven laminate comprising:

a first layer having a first side and a second side, said first layer comprising a nonwoven web of multicomponent meltblown fibers having a first polymeric component and a second polymeric component in distinct zones across the cross-section of the fibers which extend substantially continuously along the length of the fibers, said multicomponent meltblown fibers having an average fiber diameter less than about 7 micrometers, said first layer further comprising a nonwoven web of monocomponent polypropylene meltblown fibers;

a second layer proximate the first side of said first layer, said second layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers;

a third layer proximate the second side of said first layer, said third layer comprising a nonwoven web of continuous bicomponent spunbond fibers having an average fiber diameter greater than about 10 micrometers; and

wherein said layers are bonded together to form a multilayer laminate.

Claim 39 (new) The nonwoven laminate of claim 38 wherein the first polymeric component comprises a crystalline propylene polymer and wherein the second polymeric component comprises an amorphous propylene polymer.